## Delaware Bicycle Council News

Volume 10, Issue 1 - May 2006



A Cooperative Effort of the Delaware Bicycle Council and the Delaware Department of Transportation



## New Bicycle Council Chairman -**Doug Mills**

My name is Doug Mills and I am honored to accept the responsibility as the newly elected chairman of the Delaware Bicycle Council.

First, let me share with you a little about my background. I have been involved in the sport of cycling for over 25 years. I spent my teens rid-

ing/racing BMX, my twenties riding/racing Inside This Issue mountain bikes, and track racing at the New Bicycle Council Chairman Velodrome in Trexlertown, PA., and then in the early 90's I started road riding/racing and knew my true passion for the sport had been found. I spent a few years racing with Team Snow Valley. I became a USCF Expert Coach in 1996 and have been fortunate enough over the years to have the opportunity to share my personal philosophy on becoming a better cyclist and person. It has always been of the utmost importance to me to emphasize that integrity and genuine interest in the sport of cycling is the key to success for any cyclist.

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#### 2006 Legislator's Bike to Work Day

On Wednesday, May 10, 2006, State Senator Dave Sokola and State Representative Roger Roy will lead cyclists on the 17th annual Legislator's Bike to Work Ride from northern New Castle County to Legislative Hall in Dover. This 56-mile ride began in May 1990, with Rep. Roy leading a small group of bicyclists from the Delcastle Recreation Area to the steps of the State Capitol in Dover to attend the signing of the bill creating the Delaware Bicycle Council. At the conclusion of the ride, the governor traditionally meets the cyclists on the Dover Green to sign a proclamation declaring Bike to Work Week.

The purpose of this event is to encourage the use of alternative forms of transportation. In 2005, several students from the Charter School of Wilmington and Salesianum rode the 56 miles and were among the 70 participants who successfully completed the ride.

A number of individuals and organizations - including the Delaware Bicycle Council, the White Clay Bicycle Club, state lawmakers, DelDOT, Bike Line and the Biking Blue Hens – are working together to make this event a success. To ensure safety, cyclists will ride mainly on back roads, and one lane of the Summit Bridge will be closed to automobile traffic. Bike Line will provide sag service and will trail the last rider to account for all participants. The Delaware Bicycle Council will provide fruit, snacks and water at Legislative Hall. For those who only want to ride one way, return transportation on the Biking Blue Hens' bus, "Henhaus," is available by advance reservation only. All participants requiring return transportation from Dover should contact Don Carbaugh, 302-529-7929, dcarbaugh@comcast.net as soon as possible.

2006 Bicycling Calendar

Bike Council Membership

This year, cyclists will begin the route at the Polly Drummond Shopping Center at 7 am. The ride will conclude at approximately 12:30 pm in front of Legislative Hall. Those who wish to ride a shorter distance may join at one of several checkpoints along the way. Since return transportation space is limited, riders may want to park at one of these checkpoints and ride round trip from there.

For more detailed information or to obtain a cue sheet, visit the Delaware Bicycle Council's website at www.deldot.net/static/bike. Also check the web site for information on the ride from Milton to Legislative Hall.



### New Castle County Ride of Silence

by David Vispi

On Wednesday, May 17, members of the White Clay Bicycle Club (WCBC) will ride in a silent procession through the City of Newark honoring bicyclists who have been killed or injured while cycling on public roadways. The ride is being held in conjunction with the International Ride of Silence organization. Newark was chosen as a Ride of Silence site because of the high concentration of cyclists at the University of Delaware and the number of bicycle/motor vehicle related collisions in the city. Thirty-two bicycle/motor vehicle collisions were documented in a two year period between April 2002 and June 2004. Last year's Ride of Silence was comprised of over seventy riders of all ages, including the New Castle County Paramedic Bike Team.

The Ride of Silence will proceed through the City of Newark for ten miles at approximately 10 miles per hour. The event is not limited to WCBC members — anyone is welcome to ride. There are no registration fees, no sponsors, and no T-shirts. All cyclists must wear a helmet, and minors must be accompanied by an adult. Riders will ride at their own risk and be asked to sign a liability waiver form before the ride. The WCBC assumes no liability for injuries. The ride begins and ends at the Newark Charter School, leaving promptly at 7:00 pm, with everyone riding as one group. For any questions about the ride, please visit the White Clay Bicycle Club website at <a href="https://www.whiteclaybicycleclub.org">www.whiteclaybicycleclub.org</a> or contact D. Vispi at <a href="https://www.rideofsilence.org">HANGSTR23@Verizon.net</a>. Additional information is also available at <a href="https://www.rideofsilence.org">www.rideofsilence.org</a>.

#### Delaware Beaches Will See Bicycle Safety Checkpoints This Summer



by Anthony Aglio, DelDOT
Bicycle and Pedestrian Coordinator

Bicycle safety at the Delaware beaches is a high priority this summer. With increasing traffic, bicycles have become the mode of choice for many of the resort employees and vacationers. The increase in bicycling for both recreational and employment trips has risen each summer which has brought awareness for better cycling practices and driver awareness.

In an effort to reduce bicycle accidents, Bicycle Safety Checkpoints will take place at various locations along SR 1 and SR 26. Other locations are being considered and will be implemented during the summer resort season. The Bicycle Safety Checkpoints will be set up along the roadside visible to cyclists and motorists. Checkpoints will provide bicycle safety equipment, minor bicycle maintenance, bicycling information; including safety brochures outlining the rules of the road, and bicycle maps. The focus of these checkpoints will be on the following educational message:

- · Ride with traffic
- Lights are required at night (Light It Up It is the law)
- Wear a helmet
- No head phones or cell phone usage while riding

The checkpoints will be held starting in late June and throughout the month of July at various times and locations. Times and dates will vary in order to engage and reach out to different levels of cyclists in need of equipment, information and bicycle safety materials. Members of the Sussex Cyclists, State and Local Police Departments, the Delaware Department of Transportation (DelDOT) and the Delaware Bicycle Council will provide support and staffing for these checkpoints. For more information, contact Anthony Aglio, DelDOT Bicycle and Pedestrian Coordinator at 760-2509.

# Sussex County Ride of Silence

by Tony Pezone, President Sussex Cyclists

The Sussex County participation in the International Ride of Silence will take place on May 17th at 7:00 PM at the Tile Market parking lot behind the Wawa (under construction) at Dartmouth Road. It is a global silent proces-



sion to honor cyclists who have been killed or injured while cycling on public roadways. Although cyclists have a legal right to share the road with motorists the motoring public and highway departments are often not aware of these rights or choose to ignore them. Last year with only a few weeks to plan for the ride we had over 50 riders, more than most other locations, including major cities. This year we expect even more participation.

The Ride of Silence is a free ride that asks its cyclists to ride no faster than 12 mph and to remain silent during the ride. There are no T shirts, no sponsors and no registration fees. All riders must wear approved helmets and lights are recommended but not required unless riders are cycling home after the ride, in which case they are required by law. The ride aims to raise the awareness of motorists, police, officials and highway departments that cyclists have a legal right to the public roadways and to show respect for those who have been killed or injured on the roads.

We in Sussex County are especially dedicated to the ride since we have had many cyclists injured every year and even killed along Route 1. Planned modifications to the road make it no safer.

Join us... all are welcome. For more information contact us at <a href="mailto:sussexcyclist@att.net">sussexcyclist@att.net</a> or call Tony at 302-227-3010.

For more information on the Sussex Cyclists see home.att.net/%7Esussexcyclists/index.html.

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## New Bicycle Council Chairman (continued from page 1)

My zeal for the sport has taught me many lifelong lessons including those learned after being involved in a life-threatening bicycle accident in early '97. After recovering from my injuries, I was able to return to normalcy in a miraculously short span of time to the amazement of doctors. My survival was the direct result of always wearing a helmet. This major life experience caused me to refocus energies to help educate others to the importance of helmet laws.

In 2000, I fulfilled a longtime desire to start a locally based group to ride, train and race with others who share my enthusiasm for the sport. Since that time, I have served as Team Director for Wilmington Velocity. This has also given me the opportunity to promote events including non-competitive Bicycle Safety Rodeos and fund raisers to continue to educate Delaware's youth about the safe way to ride. For many years, I served as a citizen advisor to the Bicycle Council and was formally appointed as a member to the Council in 2004 to represent New Castle County. I look forward to the opportunity to undertake the challenges of my new role in the coming year.

I have already begun working on creating the following agenda but I am always eager for input and suggestions from everyone. I believe that it is necessary to broaden the awareness of all Delawareans about their rights and responsibilities when traveling the roads of this great scenic state. It is essential to continue to educate both youth and adults about proper bike riding and road sharing etiquette, the helmet laws and the consequence of non-compliance. We will continue to work diligently with DelDOT and Bicycle Council partners by providing guidance and suggestions for improving roads and making the necessary bike friendly provisions for current and future roads of Delaware. It seems that our country has provided support and infrastructure to a variety of sports i.e. soccer, football and baseball fields but cycling seems to have been forgotten. We are expected to just hit the streets and go. I would like to help develop a "Cycling Center" or facility where we could provide the chance to learn about the sport of cycling including good manners for riding, helmet laws, and guidance for safe places to ride. Additionally, the facility would be the home of the Delaware "Re-Cycle" bike program where youths could complete a program and obtain a bike and helmet.

I believe we all have the ability to undertake any opportunity in life's path and exceed the expectancy of ourselves and others. I also feel that with personal commitment and the support of family you can accomplish miracles. I am supported by my wife and two children and together we look forward to making Delaware a safer place to ride.

#### Bicycling, the Best Kept Commuting Secret

by Tom Felice, P.E., Civil Engineer with DelDOT

Recently I became a member of the Delaware Bicycle Council. Honored by the privilege to serve, I took it upon myself to become a more active bicyclist. While I'm an avid runner, the art of bike riding has slowly faded since my college days. Optimistic to rekindle a past passion, I dusted off my self-propelled hog and jumped on the saddle for an invigorating ride. Traveling along the scenic back roads of Kent County, I recalled the simple ambiance of riding a bike. It is an excellent cardiovascular workout. Plus, bicycling is a cost efficient and an environmentally sensitive mode of transportation.

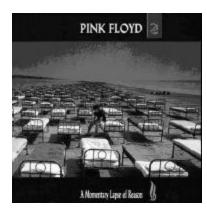
Given all the advantages of riding a bike, there's no wonder why Europeans employ bicycling in their daily commute. Thirty percent of the trips traveled in the damp Netherlands are via the tweewieler. Tweewieler means bicycle in Dutch. Denmark boasts an impressive number of bikers. Twenty percent of the Danes opt to ride their bikes as opposed to other modes of transportation. That's an impressive fact considering Denmark has a blustery climate. Germany, a country known for celebrating Oktoberfest in September, should also be recognized for implementing a respectable twelve percent. The statistics in this article are according to John Pucher of Transportation Quarterly.

So, are you wondering what the percent of trips traveled by means of the bicycle is in the United States? Here's a hint; Americans strongly prefers driving a large SUV as opposed to riding an old Schwinn. A ghastly one percent of Americans utilize their bikes as a primary mode of transportation. Not surprising given our Country's current residential layout. Suburban sprawl in the States has led to longer travel distances between homes and businesses. Biking to work would not be feasible for most Americans since the average daily roundtrip commute is approximately fifty-eight minutes. In Europe, commercial districts are centralized and located closer to residential areas.

It would be impractical to redevelop our existing landscape to reflect that of the biker friendly Old World. But, in some aspects we could better utilize our bicycles. Short trips to the market could be taken by means of a bike. More multiuse pedestrian paths could be constructed in highly populated areas. And, several unused train tracks could be converted to bikeways. In summary, bicycling is the best-kept commuting secret in America. Maybe one day in the future, we won't be complaining about the high cost of vehicle fuel, rather we will be bragging about the simple pleasures of biking!

## "A Momentary Lapse"

by Sergeant George A. Heberling, Delaware State Police



Pink Floyd's "A Momentary Lapse of Reason" has always been one of my favorite album covers. Depicting a landscape overrun by hundreds of steel hospital beds run amok, it's always struck me as particularly enigmatic – really makes me want to know the rest of the story. It also makes me wonder how often a "Momentary Lapse" has resulted in one's own or in someone else's untimely demise?

I've certainly jeopardized my own neck many, many, times over the years. I've even put myself into a bed very much like those on the album cover a time or two. Between riding my bicycle and my motocross motorcycle over hill and dale while growing up in northeast Pennsylvania; teenage "BB-gun fights"; dropping my loaded deer rifle from my tree stand; and let's not forget the veritable Joey Chitwood thrill show that accompanies a 16 year old boy's first car - it's a wonder I survived those early years - only to continue similar Homer Simpson-esque activities into adulthood. Surely, my own experiences mirror those of most American kids – at least I hope they do. OK, let's just be kind and pretend they do.

Of course, as motorists, our own momentary lapses can have serious consequences not only for ourselves but for innocents as well. I guess the opposite of a Momentary Lapse would be Situational Awareness. The US Navy defines Situational Awareness (SA) as "the degree of accuracy by which one's perception of his current environment mirrors reality." Each of us owes it to ourselves, to our loved ones, and to everyone with whom we share our roadways, to maintain the very highest level of SA whenever we're performing any potentially hazardous activity. The alternative is just too terrible to consider.

Sadly, this past February 3<sup>rd</sup>, at quarter past six in the evening, Delaware bicyclist Bryce Dick's momentary lapse ended his own life much too soon. Bryce was riding home, pedaling with traffic on the unlighted southbound shoulder of New Castle County's Marsh Road. A DART Bus was proceeding southbound behind him on the roadway. The bus driver saw Bryce and purposely moved left as far as she could. She wanted to reduce the chance of Bryce being "sucked" toward her bus as she passed. Bryce, now passing a parked car, was riding very close to the white fog line - right where the shoulder meets the main travel lane of the roadway. As he passed the front portion of this parked car, Bryce inexplicably turned left, directly into the path of the bus! The teenager's unhelmeted head struck the windshield; he was ejected from his bicycle and his body was subsequently run over and crushed by the bus. Bryce was only seventeen years old. A few facts we would all do well to remember include:

- The southbound shoulder where several cars were legally parked has no parking restrictions. It is not a designated bicycle lane, but bicycling is certainly legal.
- Bryce was not wearing a bicycle helmet (a helmet in this case would have made no difference however) or any reflective gear.
- Bryce's bicycle was not equipped with a headlight or taillight. Other than the two reflectors on the wheels, no other reflectors were found. No signs of a rear view mirror were found.
- At autopsy, Bryce was found to be still wearing "ear bud" headphones. His MP3 music player was found at the scene. It is believed that Bryce never heard the bus because he was listening to music. (Riding with earphones is illegal.)
- A video camera on the DART bus was operating at the time of the crash. It corroborates the bus driver's statements and clearly shows Bryce as he turns left into the path of the DART bus.
- The bus headlights were illuminated at the time of the crash.
- Needless to say, the cautious DART bus driver is devastated

Certainly, seventeen is far too young to die - anything less than triple digits is too young these days. Please, maintain your own SA by riding and driving with a "heads-up" attitude. Let's confine our Momentary Lapses to mysterious album covers. By the way, please think of Bryce the next time you hear the final track on the aforementioned Pink Floyd album. The song's title is "Sorrow".



Anthony Aglio is New Bike/Ped Coordinator Anthony Aglio has been appointed as the new Bicycle/Pedestrian coordinator for DelDOT. Anthony has been working on community bicycle and pedestrian transportation plans since arriving at DelDOT in September 2001. Previous to that he worked as the Senior Planner at Mackin Engineering Company primarily on Community Comprehensive Plans. He has a MA in Regional Planning and is a member of Association of Pedestrian and Bicycle Professionals. He has a wife Janae, a daughter Maci and a son Anthony, Jr.

Anthony is an expert bicyclist, having ridden since his child-hood. He has taken the League of American Bicyclist's Bike Ed course, and when time permits plans to take their certification course to become a certified Bike Ed Instructor.

## Use Your Head Bike Safety Fair

by Anthony Aglio, DelDOT's Bicycle and Pedestrian Safety Coordinator

For the third consecutive year, Sussex Cyclists, the Ocean Atlantic Agency, Maverick Marketing, and the Delaware Department of Transportation (DelDOT) are working together to plan the *Use Your Head Bike Safety Fair*. The fair will take place on **June 19<sup>th</sup> from 8:00 a.m. until 5:00 p.m.** at the Ocean Atlantic Agency parking lot located at 330 Rehoboth Avenue.

The *Use Your Head Bike Safety Fair* has grown from year to year, gaining support from various groups over the last three years. A special thanks goes to the Ocean Atlantic Agency for spearheading this effort and providing funding for bicycle helmets and the location for the event. Other strong supporters are Beebe Hospital, Lots of Linens, McDonalds, the University of Delaware, THETAVEST, Inc., CIEE, the Delaware State Police, the Rehoboth/Dewey Chamber of Commerce, and the Lewes Chamber of Commerce.

The Use Your Head Bike Safety Fair was started as a grassroots effort to promote safe bicycling practices in the resort area. Last year 900 bicycle helmets were given away. The Sussex Cyclists and the Delaware State Police crafted a program to educate cyclists in safe bicycling practices and a share the road campaign in an effort to raise awareness with the traveling public. These two groups continue educational efforts by providing informational materials and safety gear to anyone interested in bicycling safety. This year's Use Your Head Bike Safety Fair will again include free helmets, helmet fitting, bicycle safety materials, reflective safety gear, a children's bicycle rodeo, transit brochures, bike bus loading demonstrations, bicycle maps and information on riding in the resort area. Sussex County Cylists' Tony Pezone stated, "It is an event for everyone – we anticipate a big turnout."

Helmets will be available (while supplies last) for those who are unable to attend the June 19<sup>th</sup> *Use Your Head Bike Safety Fair* at the Ocean Atlantic Agency office. Just stop by the Ocean Atlantic office at 330 Rehoboth Avenue during regular business hours. For more information about this or other bicycle events scheduled throughout the summer, please contact Anthony Aglio, DelDOT's Bicycle and Pedestrian Safety Coordinator at 760-2509.



#### Lose The Training Wheels

by Judi Jeffers, Delaware Bicycle Council

For the first time in Wilmington at Bellevue State Park, the Autism Society of Delaware and the Delaware Bicycle Council sponsored an Adaptive Bike Camp- - an intensive five-day program that teaches children who have autism how to ride a two-wheeled bicycle independently.

The camp, held in September 2005, was facilitated by Richard Klein, Ph.D, a retired professor of mechanical engineering. Dr. Klein became an unacclaimed expert on bicycles through his teaching at the University of Illinois. He was called upon by



the disability community in the early 1990s to make an adaptive bike to ease the transition to a regular bike for children with disabilities. He and his wife have traveled extensively throughout the United States teaching children with disabilities, including autism, to ride a typical two wheel bike independently.

The children learned balance and coordination as they worked through a series of bikes. The goal was for each child to be successful in graduating to a regular two wheeler by the end of the week. It was a great week for the children, parents and volunteers. The reward was seeing the children when they took off on their bike smiling from ear to ear.

Note: The Delaware Autism Society presented Judi Jeffers with an "Outstanding Volunteer" award for her efforts in bringing this program to Delaware, coordinating with the organizers of the camp and enlisting the many volunteers needed to make the camp a success.

#### Delaware Bicycle Council Membership Changes...

During the past year, three members left the Bicycle Council:

Danna Levy – Greenways and Trails Representative Nicholas Vacirca – Dept. of Education Representative Tim Willard – Sussex County Citizen Representative

The Bicycle Council would like to thank them for their excellent service. Also, three new members were appointed to the Council:

Tom Felice – DelDOT Representative John Ray – Dept. of Education Representative Walt Bryan – Sussex County Citizen Representative

If you would like to be considered for future openings on the Delaware Bicycle Council, contact: Doug Mills, 302-994-2656, <a href="https://www.ykel@comcast.net">www.ykel@comcast.net</a> or Sarah E. Wootten, 302-744-4257, sarah wootten@state de us



## **Bike Month Events Calendar**

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday		
Welcome to the 2006 Bike Month Calendar. The majority of the rides listed on this calendar are sponsored by local Bicycling Clubs.  WCBC is the White Clay Bicycling Club based in New Castle County for more ride details see www.whiteclaybicycleclub.org.  FSVS is the racing affiliate of WCBC see del.net/org/fsvs DDSR is the Downstate Delaware Striders and Riders, a Kent County club for Cyclists and Runners/Walkers see www.ddsr.org. Also DelDOT and the Dover Kent MPO are planning some events still to be scheduled check www.deldot.net for updates.								
30 (April) MS Mason Dixon Ride 25/50 miles AH WCBC Brandywine Ramble IV 9 AM - 40 miles JDS WCBC KMS-Modena 8 AM - 48 miles DD	1 WCBC Very Hilly Training Ride 5:45 pm - 30 to 33 miles AC	2 DDSR Dover Ride 5:15pm - 25-30miles MKS WCBC MS Training Ride 6 PM - 20 to 23 miles BP WCBC Red Lion Ride 6 PM - 25-35 miles ESM	3 WCBC Training Ride 5:45 PM - 32 to 40 miles AC	4	5 WCBC Silverside Road Ride 6 PM - 20- 25 miles JDS	6 WCBC MS Bike-to- Bay Training Ride 9 AM 20-25 miles LC WCBC Fortescue on the Bay 8:30 AM - 97 miles DK FSVS Training Ride 8 AM 45-60 miles NW		
7 WCBC Brandywine Ramble IV 8:30 AM - 50 miles JDS WCBC Augustine Beach 8:30 AM - 50 miles MCM WCBC Linvilla and Ridley Creek 9 AM - 32 miles BK	8 WCBC Very Hilly Training Ride 5:45 pm - 30 to 36 miles AC	9 DDSR Dover Ride 5:15pm - 25 to 30 miles MKS WCBC MS Training Ride 6 PM - 20 to 23 miles BP WCBC Red Lion Ride 6 PM - 25-35 miles ESM	10 Legislators Bike to Dover Ride 7 am - 56 miles one way DC WCBC Training Ride 5:45 pm - 32 to 40 miles AC	11	12 WCBC Silverside Road Ride 6 PM - 20- 25 miles JDS	13 WCBC Mt. Pigsah or Bust 8 AM - 85-90 miles MB WCBC Crystal Beach Ride 8:30 AM - 60 miles MS WCBC Easy Whip 10 AM - 35 miles BW		
Bike To Work Week								
14 WCBC Brandywine Ramble VII 7:30 AM - 70 miles JDS WCBC Fit & Fun Ride 9 AM - 20-25 miles ESM WCBC Earlybird Ride 8 AM - 48 hilly miles DD	15 WCBC Very Hilly Training Ride 5:45 pm - 30 to 36 miles AC	16 DDSR Dover Ride 5:15pm - 25 to 30 miles MKS WCBC MS Training Ride 6 PM - 20 to 23 miles BP WCBC Red Lion Ride 6 PM - 25-35 miles ESM	17 WCBC Ride of Silence 7 PM - 10 miles DV (see article on Page 2) Sussex Co. Ride of Silence (see article on page 2) WCBC Training Ride 5:45 PM - 32 to 42 miles AC	18	19 WCBC Silverside Road Ride 6 PM - 20- 25 miles JDS National Bike to Work Day	20 WCBC MS Bike- to-Bay Training Ride 9 AM - 20-25 miles LC Elkton Mayor's Crit Classic - a day of bicy- cle races - DM FSVS Training Ride 8 AM 45-60 miles NW		
21 WCBC Brandywine Ramble VII 7:30 AM - 70 miles JDS WCBC Fit & Fun Ride 9 AM - 20-25 miles ESM WCBC Earlybird Ride 8 AM - 48 hilly miles DD	22 WCBC Very Hilly Training Ride 5:45 pm - 30 to 36 miles AC	23 DDSR Dover Ride 5:15pm - 25 to 30 miles MKS WCBC MS Training Ride 6 PM - 20 to 23 miles BP WCBC Red Lion Ride 6 PM - 25-35 miles ESM	24 WCBC Training Ride 5:45 PM - 32 to 42 miles AC	25	26 WCBC Silverside Road Ride 6 PM - 20- 25 miles JDS	27 WCBC Chestertown Tea Party 9 AM - 50 miles BLA WCBC Hawk Mountain Twin Century (May 27 & 28) 7:30 AM - 100 miles each day WH		
28	29 WCBC Centreville Century 7:30 AM - 100 miles MN WCBC Very Hilly Training Ride 5:45 PM - 30 to 36 miles AC	30 DDSR Dover Ride 5:15pm - 25 to 30 miles MKS WCBC MS Training Ride 6 PM - 20 to 23 miles BP WCBC Red Lion Ride 6 PM - 25-35 miles ESM	31 WCBC Training Ride 5:45 PM - 32 to 42 miles AC					

Ride Contacts - All #'s area code 302 unless otherwise noted. AH - Amy Hughes 655-5610 amy.hughes@ded.nmss.org, LC - Linda Colvin - 838-9251 bwcsr@yahoo.com, JDS - Jerry & Debbie Steinberg 373-6495 jsteinberg3@comcast.net, DK - Doug Kennedy 610-543-4664 dougkennedy7@yahoo.com, BK - Barrie Kintner - 610-361-0442, **DD** - Daniel Dole 610-274-8080 danieldole@thelink.com, **MS** - Mike Salter 239-0384 trekbikermike@aol.com, **BW** - Bob Wheeler - 239-6620 rwheeler@echip.com, DV - David Vispi - 995-2155 hangstra23@verizon.net, MB - Mike Barker 998-7684 rekrab43@yahoo.com, MCM - Mary Clare Matsumoto 731-1430 mcm2004@aol.com, AC - Aaron Chen 731-1456 Aaron.Chen-1@USA.dupont.com, MKS - Mike & Kim Stockslager 242-6676 trekbiker2100@yahoo.com, ESM -Ed & Susan McNulty 834-7429 smcnulth@verizon.net, MN - Mario Nappa 239-1179 ibikealot@hotmail.com, BLA - Bob & Lynn Adelman 234-1057 tandemcyclist@yahoo.com, CI - Carol Ireland 995-9658, WH - Wally Hertler 610-388-7115, DC - Don Carbaugh 529-7929 dcarbaugh@comcast.net, BP - Bruce Poole 999-1211 BRP104@aol.com, DM - Doug Mills 994-2656 wvcykel@comcast.net, NW - Nancy Waddell 545-4146 nwaddell@comcast.net

# Trail Concept Plan Completed for Chesapeake and Delaware Canal

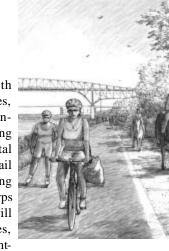
by Olivia Kurtz, Legislative Assistant, Congressman Mike Castle

In 2005, through the leadership of Congressman Mike Castle, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Corps) received initial federal funding to conduct a study of the recreational potential of the Chesapeake and Delaware Canals (C&D Canal). A project team was created to manage the study and to develop an appropriate vision for a multi-use trail system along the C&D Canal that would enhance the recreational opportunities for the local and the regional community. As the state of Delaware is experiencing double digit development, places for quality recreational experiences, especially as varied and wide as those offered at the C&D Canal, are in high demand.

After holding public workshops last year with area residents in Delaware and Maryland to better understand their preferences, the project team — the Corps, the Delaware Department of Natural Resources and Environmental Control, the Maryland Department of Natural Resources, the Delaware Department of Transportation, New Castle County, DE, Cecil County, MD, Delaware City, DE, Chesapeake City, MD, Delaware Greenways, and the Delaware Bicycle Council — completed "The Chesapeake and Delaware Canal Trail Concept Plan." A year in the making, the recently completed Trail Concept Plan provides a practical road map for making enhancements to the area along the Canal, which will provide a continuous trail from Delaware City and Chesapeake City, and a link to other greenways, trails, and historic sites in the region.

The Trail Concept Plan outlines a multi-purpose trail that will accommodate a mix of bicycling, walking, and horseback riding

(among other activities) with trail markers, restroom facilities, improved fishing piers, controlled access points, and parking areas. The plan includes a total of 29.2 miles of multi-use trail on both sides of the Canal along the first tier of the Army Corps service road. All of this will compliment existing activities, like fishing, dog training, hunt-



ing, and horseback riding, as well as the preservation of the Canal's wetlands, wildlife, and natural infrastructure.

As communities continue to grow and develop throughout Delaware, this recreation project is becoming increasingly important to all residents who value open spaces and who would like access to more recreational areas, like multi-purpose trails for bicycling. While this is a long-term project, the Delaware Bicycle Council is pleased to announce this major milestone and its commitment to the future development of the trail for Delaware cyclists.

For more information on the project or to view an electronic copy of "The Chesapeake and Delaware Canal Trail Concept Plan," please visit <a href="http://www.nap.usace.army.mil/Projects/CD/index.htm">http://www.nap.usace.army.mil/Projects/CD/index.htm</a>, or contact the office of Congressman Mike Castle at 302-428-1902.

## **Delaware Senior Olympics**

Bicycling is just one of 24 competitive sports and events that make up the Delaware Senior Olympics, held during September and October every year. The bicycling events are:

Time Trials Wednesday, October 4 (no rain date)
Dover Downs Speedway
Distances 1 mile, 5k and 10k

Road Races Saturday, October 7 (rain date Oct. 14) Marydel, DE Distances 20k (12.5 miles), 40k (25 miles)

Suzanne Cavanaugh is coordinator of the bicycling events. For information, contact her at 302-454-0202 or clcsgc58@yahoo.com. Also, see their web site at <a href="www.delawareseniorolympics.org">www.delawareseniorolympics.org</a>.

#### 2006 Bicycling Event Calendar

<u>Date</u>	Location / Contact Info
April 30	MS Mason-Dixon Ride
	www.nationalmssociety.org/MSBike-Delaware.asp
May 10	Legislator's Ride to Work
	www.deldot.net/static/bike
May 20	Elkton Mayor's Races
	www wilmingtonvelocity.com
Jul 2	WCBC Delaware Double Cross
	www.whiteclaybicycleclub.org
Aug 26	WCBC Shore Fire Century
	www.whiteclaybicycleclub.org
Sep 9	Amish Country Tour, Dover
	www.visitdover.com/tours/eventbiketour.html
Sept 30 & Oct 1	MS150 Bike to the Bay
	www.nationalmssociety.org/MSBike-Delaware.asp
Oct 4	Delaware Senior Olympics Time Trails
	www.delawareseniorolympics.org
Oct 7	Delaware Senior Olympics Road Race
	www.delawareseniorolympics.org
Oct 14	WCBC Savage Century
	www.whiteclaybicycleclub.org

WCBC = White Clay Bicycle Club

#### www.deldot.net/static/bike "Our Mission is to Promote and Enhance Bicycling in Delaware."

A Cooperative Effort of the Delaware Bicycle Council and the Delaware Department of Transportation

Dover, DE 19903 P.O. Box 778 Delaware Bicycle Council News



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#### **Delaware Bicycle Council Membership and Staff Support**

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